Anti-Slavery Office,
22 May, 1858.

Dear Garrison,

S S - I enclose you a letter recently received from Gerrit Smith, together with a copy of my reply to the same. I send them to you because I presume you have an interest in common with myself in watching his movements in relation to the matters alluded to in the Standard of last week. You will see how he tries to shuffle away from the point. I have spoken very plainly to him - I hope not unkindly or unjudiciously. That he will be deeply offended I cannot doubt, but how could I say less?

As I have a letter from Mrs. L. Chapman referring to the article which called forth Smith's letter, I am induced to believe that she will feel an interest in looking at the correspondence. Smith will be in Boston next week, & care should be taken that he shall not hear of my letter while there, since he is not likely to see it [illegible] anything

~~Get~~ before his return to Peterboro. On this point pray be discreet. And don't fail to return the letters to me.

I am sorry to hear that you are not well since your return to Boston. Pray be careful of your health. Mary Anne unites with me in ~~love~~ messages of love to you and Helen. How I should love to drop into your convention for a day!

Yours, always,

Oliver Johnson.

P. S. Do you still mean to print Parker's speech on your first page, in the paper following the N. E. convention? I see one difficulty in the way, viz: he cannot be present to see the proofs; but I dare say you can read his MS., or perhaps Yerrinton may take notes of the speech and thus help you over the hard places. Please send proofs of that and of the rest of the proceedings in as clean a condition as you can, for I am reluctant to give Gay trouble. O. J.